

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A conductive paste ~~containing comprising:~~
a conductive material; and

a binder containing ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_L and ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_H at a weight ratio of $X : (1-X)$, where MW_L , MW_H and X are selected so that $X * MW_L + (1-X) * MW_H$ falls within a range of 145,000 to 215,000 and at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of isobornyl acetate, dihydroterpinyl methyl ether, terpinyl methyl ether, α -terpinyl acetate, I-dihydrocarvyl acetate, I-menthone, I-menthyl acetate, I-perillyl acetate and I-carvyl acetate.

2. (Original) A conductive paste in accordance with Claim 1, wherein MW_L , MW_H and X are selected so that $X * MW_L + (1-X) * MW_H$ falls within a range of 155,000 to 205,000.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered unit for a multi-layered ceramic electronic component comprising a step of printing a conductive paste ~~containing including a conductive material and~~ a binder containing ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_L and ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_H at a weight ratio of $X : (1-X)$, where MW_L , MW_H and X are selected so that $X * MW_L + (1-X) * MW_H$ falls within a range of 145,000 to 215,000 and at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of isobornyl acetate, dihydroterpinyl methyl ether, terpinyl methyl ether, α -terpinyl acetate, I-dihydrocarvyl acetate, I-menthone, I-menthyl acetate, I-perillyl acetate and I-carvyl acetate on a ceramic green sheet containing a butyral system resin as a binder in a predetermined pattern, thereby forming an electrode layer.

4. (Original) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered unit for a multi-layered ceramic electronic component in accordance with Claim 3, wherein MW_L , MW_H and X are selected so that $X * MW_L + (1-X) * MW_H$ falls within a range of 155,000 to 205,000.

5. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered unit for a multi-layered ceramic electronic component in accordance with Claim 3, which further comprises a step of printing a dielectric paste containing a binder containing ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_L and ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_H at a weight ratio of $X : (1-X)$, where MW_L , MW_H and X are selected so that $X * MW_L + (1-X) * MW_H$ falls within a range of 110,000 to 180,000 and at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of isobornyl acetate, dihydroterpinyl methyl ether, terpinyl methyl ether, α -terpinyl acetate, I-dihydrocarvyl acetate, I-menthone, I-menthyl acetate, I-perillyl acetate and I-carvyl acetate on a ceramic green sheet in a predetermined pattern, thereby forming an electrode layer on the ceramic green sheet in a complementary pattern to that of the electrode layer after drying the electrode layer, thereby forming a spacer layer.

6. (Previously Presented) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered unit for a multi-layered ceramic electronic component in accordance with Claim 3, which further comprises a step of printing a dielectric paste containing a binder containing ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_L and ethyl cellulose having a weight average molecular weight of MW_H at a weight ratio of $X : (1-X)$, where MW_L , MW_H and X are selected so that $X * MW_L + (1-X) * MW_H$ falls within a range of 110,000 to 180,000 and at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of isobornyl acetate, dihydroterpinyl methyl ether, terpinyl methyl ether, α -terpinyl acetate, I-dihydrocarvyl acetate, I-menthone, I-menthyl acetate, I-perillyl acetate and I-carvyl acetate on the ceramic green sheet in a complementary pattern to that of the electrode layer prior to forming the electrode layer, thereby forming a spacer layer.

7. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered unit for a multi-layered ceramic electronic component in accordance with ~~any one of~~ Claim 3,

wherein the degree of polymerization of a butyral system resin contained in a ceramic green sheet as a binder is equal to or larger than 1000.

8. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a multi-layered unit for a multi-layered ceramic electronic component in accordance with ~~any one of~~ Claim 3, wherein the degree of butyralization of butyral system resin contained in a ceramic green sheet as a binder is equal to or larger than 64 mol % and equal to or smaller than 78 mol %.